

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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P 112125Z SEP 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199763

NESCO

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TAGS: AORG,UNESCO,CA,IS

SUBJECT: CANADIAN AND U. S. MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN
REGIONAL GROUP OF UNESCO

REFS: A) PARIS 20279; B) OTTAWA 0992; C)PARIS
08947

1. DEPT. APPRECIATES PERMDEL'S PROPOSALS (REF. A) FOR ADVANCING U. S. AND CANADIAN OBJECTIVES. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN CANADIAN MOMENTUM IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE WORK CLOSELY WITH THEM IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING OUR STRATEGY. WE UNDERSTAND DRAFT RESOLUTION SET FORTH REF. A HAS BEEN GIVEN TO AMBASSADOR GAGNON WHO IN TURN SUBMITTED IT TO OTTAWA. WE HAVE NO SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE RE TEXT OF RESOLUTION BUT
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BELIEVE WAY IN WHICH IT IS SUBMITTED REQUIRES CAREFUL CON-

SIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES.

2. JOINT SPONSORSHIP BY BOTH U. S. AND CANADA WOULD BE MUCH PREFERABLE TO SUBMISSION BY U. S. ALONE, EVEN IF THIS ENTAILS SOME DELAY. ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE, UNDER CONSIDERATION BY EXTAFF, ACCORDING TO ACTION OFFICER GORN, IS FOR ONE OR (PREFERABLY) SEVERAL MEMBERS OF EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP, INCLUDING, IF POSSIBLE, EE MEMBERS SUCH AS YUGOSLAVIA, TO SUBMIT RESOLUTION. IF, AT SAME TIME, THERE WERE SOME WAY OF GETTING EUROPEAN GROUP TO ENDORSE CANADIAN AND

U. S. MEMBERSHIP, THIS WOULD GIVE TREMENDOUS BOOST TO ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR OBJECTIVE, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW WELL-ESTABLISHED UNESCO CUSTOM (DOCUMENTED BY GAGNON IN PARA. 2 OF REF. C) FOR OTHER MEMBERS TO DEFER TO MAJORITY VIEWS OF REGIONAL GROUP IN RELATION TO ESSENTIALLY REGIONAL ISSUES. DEPT. HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY REF. A'S REPORT OF ALMOST UNANIMOUS WE SUPPORT FOR CANADIAN DEMARCHE. (DUTCH POSITION, HOWEVER, APPEARS TO REQUIRE CLARIFICATION SINCE REF. B REPORTED THAT GON HAD REPLIED EARLY AND FAVORABLY.) TWENTY WE'S AND 3 EE'S HAVE PLEDGED THEIR SUPPORT OUT OF TOTAL OF 31 MEMBERS OF EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP.

3. IN LIGHT OF MAJORITY SUPPORT GARNERED BY CANADIAN DEMARCHES TO ALL CAPITALS AND FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER SAUVAGNARGUES' REACTION TO CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, FRENCH OPPOSITION SEEMS BOTH LESS IMPORTANT AND LESS DETERMINED NOW THAN FORMERLY. NEVERTHELESS, WE WOULD PREFER TO CONTINUE TO USE CANADA AS STALKING HORSE VIS-A-VIS FRENCH AND TO WAIT UNTIL CANADIAN AMBASSADOR SEES SAUVAGNARGUES AGAIN BEFORE MAKING DECISION RE DESIRABILITY, LEVEL AND TIMING OF PROPOSED U. S. APPROACH TO QUAI D'ORSAY. HOWEVER, WE ARE INCLINED TO DOUBT THAT AN APPROACH BY DEPT. TO FRENCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE USEFUL, EITHER IN CONJUNCTION WITH OR IN LIEU OF APPROACH IN PARIS.

4. DEPT. SHARES PERMDEL'S VIEW RE USEFULNESS OF DEMARCHE TO SELECTED CAPITALS IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN OUR POSITION
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AT 18TH GC AND WOULD APPRECIATE PERMDEL'S REACTION TO SUGGESTION THAT THIS BE DELAYED UNTIL SUBMISSION OF RESOLUTION IN WHICH U. S. AND CANADA ARE FIRMLY LINKED. WE AGREE THAT ALL EUROPEAN MEMBERS SHOULD BE APPROACHED AND SUGGEST THAT OTHERS BE LIMITED TO MEMBERS THAT RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO CANADIAN DEMARCHE. LATTER WOULD NOT BE MENTIONED, OF COURSE, AND THERE WOULD BE NO INDICATION THAT ONLY SELECTIVE APPROACHES WERE BEING MADE.

5. PERMDEL'S EFFORTS TO LINE UP SUPPORT AMONG OTHER PERMDELS SHOULD BE RELATED TO TIMING OF APPROACHES TO CAPITALS, AS WELL AS PERMDEL'S OWN JUDGMENT AS TO TACTICS WHICH WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE IN EACH CASE. DESPITE PRIOR CANADIAN APPROACH, OUR INTERESTS MIGHT IN MANY CASES BE BEST SERVED BY PERMDEL INITIATING CONSULTATIONS IMMEDIATELY SO THAT CAPITALS WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO BE WELL BRIEFED BY THEIR PARIS REPRESENTATIVES BEFORE BEING CONTACTED BY OUR EMBASSIES.

6. ISRAEL'S UNDERSTANDABLE DESIRE TO AVOID BEING LEFT ONLY UNESCO MEMBER NOT ASSIGNED TO ANY REGIONAL GROUP POSES DIFFICULT AND DELICATE PROBLEM FOR U. S. AND CANADA BUT NOT, IN OUR VIEW, ONE WHICH SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZES OUR GOAL. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN VERY HELPFUL, OF COURSE, IF GOI HAD BEEN PREPARED TO WAIT UNTIL 19TH GC FOR FINAL ACTION, SETTling FOR U. S. COMMITMENT TO INITIATE ACTION BY 97TH EXBD NEXT SPRING TO INCLUDE ISRAEL IN MEETINGS OF EUROPEAN GROUP ALONG LINES OF 92ND BOARD'S RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF U. S., CANADA AND OTHERS. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, HOWEVER, AND IN CONTRAST TO CANADIAN AMBASSADOR GAGNON'S ASSESSMENT OF SITUATION, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW ISRAEL COULD NOW EASILY AND WITHOUT SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT REVERSE PROCESS IT SET IN MOTION IN AUGUST 1973 BY REQUESTING EXBD TO "CONSIDER ISRAEL AS FORMING PART OF THE EUROPEAN REGION" (93 EX/8, PAGE 11). ALTHOUGH DEPT. HAS NOT YET RECEIVED BASIC DOCUMENT, 18 C/43, 18TH GC WOULD APPEAR TO BE COMPELLED TO TAKE COGNIZANCE OF THIS REQUEST WHICH RESPONDED TO RESOLUTION ON ITEM 4.2 ADOPTED BY 92ND BOARD, ESPECIALLY PARAS. 11 AND 12.

7. IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE PRUDENT TO ASSUME "WORST", I.E. CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT ISRAEL WILL SEEK DURING 18TH GC TO AMEND U.S./ CANADIAN RESOLUTION BY ADDING ITSELF; IF SO, U. S. WOULD HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF ISRAELI AMENDMENT. BUT BY SAME TOKEN, WE WOULD HOPE THAT GAGNON'S PESSIMISTIC VIEW THAT ARABS WOULD STRONGLY OPPOSE ISRAELIS AND EXERT PRESSURE ON OTHER COUNTRIES TO FOLLOW SUIT IS NOT ENTIRELY WARRANTED, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF UNESCO TRADITION OF MEMBERS NOT INTERVENING IN AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER REGIONAL GROUP. EVEN IF ARABS WERE TO SEIZE OPPORTUNITY TO TRY TO OSTRACIZE ISRAELIS AND EVEN IF MAJORITY OF OTHER MEMBERS WERE TO SUPPORT SUCH FLAGRANTLY GRATUITOUS EFFORT, WE FAIL TO SEE WHY THIS MIGHT "SERIOUSLY UPSET U. S. AND CANADIAN EFFORTS." WHY WOULD AMENDMENT'S FAILURE REFLECT ADVERSELY ON U. S. AND CANADA? DEPT. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING PERMDEL'S VIEWS AND, WHEN AVAILABLE, REPORT OF

GAGNON'S MEETING WITH NEW ISRAELI AMBASSADOR.

8. FOR OTTAWA: PLEASE DISCUSS ABOVE WITH APPROPRIATE
EXTAFFOFFICIALS AND REPORT GOC VIEWS. WOULD ALSO
APPRECIATE RECEIVING COMPLETE REPORT, BY COUNTRY, RE
RESPONSES TO CANADIAN DEMARCHE, PARTLY TO FACILITATE
SELECTION OF CAPITALS FOR U. S. DEMARCHE.

9. FOR TEL AVIV: PLEASE ENDEAVOR ASCERTAIN GOI 18TH GC
STRATEGY FOR JOINING EUROPEAN GROUP, WITHOUT REVEALING
CONTENTS PARAS. 6 AND 7, ABOVE. KISSINGER

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